Waiting list of LPG connections

3075. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

whether new LPG connections are not being given to a number of genuine persons in various parts of the country;

whether it is a fact that Indian Oil Corporation has reported a waiting list of 0.47 lakh as on 1 March, 2008 for release of new LPG connections with their distributors in the country; and

if so, by when the waiting lists is expected to be liquidated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL); (a) The enrolment of new LPG customers and release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that at present, new LPG connections are available across the counter for genuine domestic customers.

(b) and (c) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported that against the waiting list of 46,955 as on 1.3.2008, the waiting list has reduced to 25,077 as on 1.4.2008 for release of new LPG connections with their distributors in the country. This waiting list is expected to be liquidated by 15.05.2008.

R and D activities of Oil Corporation

3076. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

whether any budgetary allocations were made for R and D activities in respect of ONGC, OIL, IOCL, HPCL and BPCL during the last three years, till March, 2008;

if so, the actual expenditure on Research and Development by these companies company-wise and year-wise during the above period and what is the balance left out, till-date; and

what amount has been earmarked during the Eleventh Five Year Plan Period for Research and Development activities in respect of these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The required information is given as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the Oil PSUs	Budgetary allocations made for R & D activities			Actual Expenditure on Research and Development activities			The total amount earmarked for Research and Development activities during the 11th Five Year Plan
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	
1	2	3	-4	5	6	7	8
ONGC	155.00	170.29	148.15	108.37	86.36	128.26	833.67
OIL	16.48	16.65	35.63	12.58	11.50	16.23	216.99